

CARR-987

FINKSBURG SURVEY DISTRICT

19th & 20th c.

Old Westminster Pike  
Finksburg

private

Finksburg is a small residential and commercial community whose history is representative of the pattern of small town development in Carroll County. It was a turnpike town that began with the establishment of a tavern by Adam Fink about 1810. The tavern created a site for a commercial center and soon other businesses were established, including a store and blacksmith's shop. This was followed by a church and school. A period of growth and industrial expansion began with the construction of the Western Maryland Railroad in 1862. However, the biggest change wrought on the community came with the construction of Maryland Route 140 in 1954.

The Finksburg Survey District contains structures of the regional architectural style in Carroll County. This vernacular style is characterized by log construction covered in weatherboard, two stories, gable roof, and L-shaped plans. Changes occurred with the coming of the railroad in 1862, with some commercial and residential structures reflecting the rural Victorian details popular in this region. The prosperity brought by the railroad and developing industries can be seen in the few late 19th and early 20th century buildings.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic FINKSBURG SURVEY DISTRICT

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number Old Westminster Pike \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Finksburg \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Sixth

state Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ county Carroll

### 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Multiple private owners

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state and zip code \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex \_\_\_\_\_ liber

street & number 55 N. Court Street \_\_\_\_\_ folio

city, town Westminster \_\_\_\_\_ state MD

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CARR-987

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☒ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

**Summary:** The Finksburg Survey District contains structures of the regional architectural style in Carroll County. This vernacular style is characterized by log construction covered in weatherboard, two stories, gable roof, and L-shaped plans. Changes occurred with the coming of the railroad in 1862, with some commercial and residential structures reflecting the rural Victorian details popular in this region. The prosperity brought by the railroad and developing industries can be seen in the few late 19th and early 20th century buildings.

**Description:** Finksburg was laid out on a relatively level stretch of land along the turnpike road. Its characteristics are typical of villages in this region, with the houses located close to the road and fairly close together.

The architecture of the early house presents the regional architectural style in Carroll County. This vernacular style is characterized by log construction covered in weatherboard, two stories, gable roof, and L-shaped plans. Houses such as 3021 and 3005 Old Westminster Pike are of log construction and contain these regional characteristics.

The arrival of the railroad in 1862 brought some changes to the community. Architecturally, houses were updated to Victorian styles with the construction of an ornamental porch and/or central gabled dormer. 3114 Old Westminster Pike is considered the oldest house, but it was completely remodeled in the late 19th century and now is the best Victorian example in the village.

The commercial buildings also reflect these changes. During the early history of the community, businesses were conducted within the residences. For example, 3051 Old Westminster Pike was the hotel. The one-story crafts shop at 3021 Old Westminster Pike is an excellent example of its type. The Victorian commercial style is represented by the brick store at 3003 Old Westminster Pike.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-987

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400-1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500-1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/
___ 1700-1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

Level of Significance: \_\_\_ national \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary: Finksburg is a small residential and commercial community whose history is representative of the pattern of small town development in Carroll County. It was a turnpike town that began with the establishment of a tavern by Adam Fink about 1810. The tavern created a site for a commercial center and soon other businesses were established, including a store and blacksmith's shop. This was followed by a church and school. A period of growth and industrial expansion began with the construction of the Western Maryland Railroad in 1862. However, the biggest change wrought on the community came with the construction of Maryland Route 140 in 1954.

History: Finksburg is laid out on a land parcel originally patented in 1750 as "Hooker's Meadow" by Thomas Hooker and resurveyed in 1763 for 461 acres. The tract was located along an Indian trail and early wagon road. In 1810, Adam Fink purchased a 15 acre parcel and established a tavern

Scharf's History of Western Maryland (pp.868-69) states that the town was laid out by a Mr. Quigly in 1813. Its early history is depicted by the mechanical crafts and commercial enterprises typical of a village serving an agricultural area.

In 1862, the Western Maryland Railroad passed north of Finksburg and led to industrial and commercial development of the community. Local histories describe some of the activity including the Patapsco Mining Company, Finksburg Cannery and the Baltimore Roofing and Asbestos Manufacturing Company (later known as Congoleum).

The construction of Maryland Route 140 in 1954 bypassed the town center but still had a large impact on the community, effectively cutting off the older turnpike town from the later railroad depot development. While some properties were demolished, most of the early buildings of the community still exist.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-987

Frazier, Linda M. "It all Started in 1841--The Story of the Fraziers and Finksburg." 1970 manuscript in verticle files of the Historical Society of Carroll County

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name FinksburgQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references \_\_\_\_\_

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joe Gettyorganization Carroll Co. Dept. of Planningdate January 1985street & number 225 N. Center Streettelephone 848-4500city or town Westminterstate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

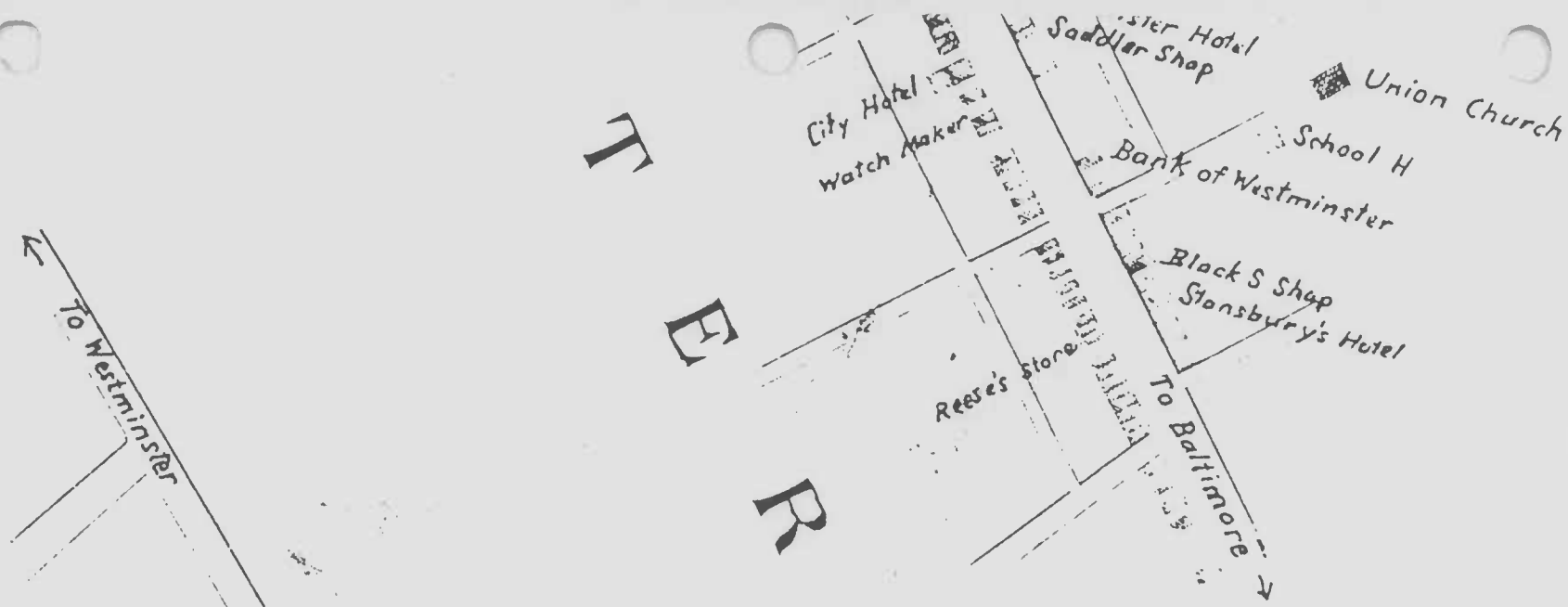
FINKSBURG QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5663 III SE  
(HAMPSTEAD)

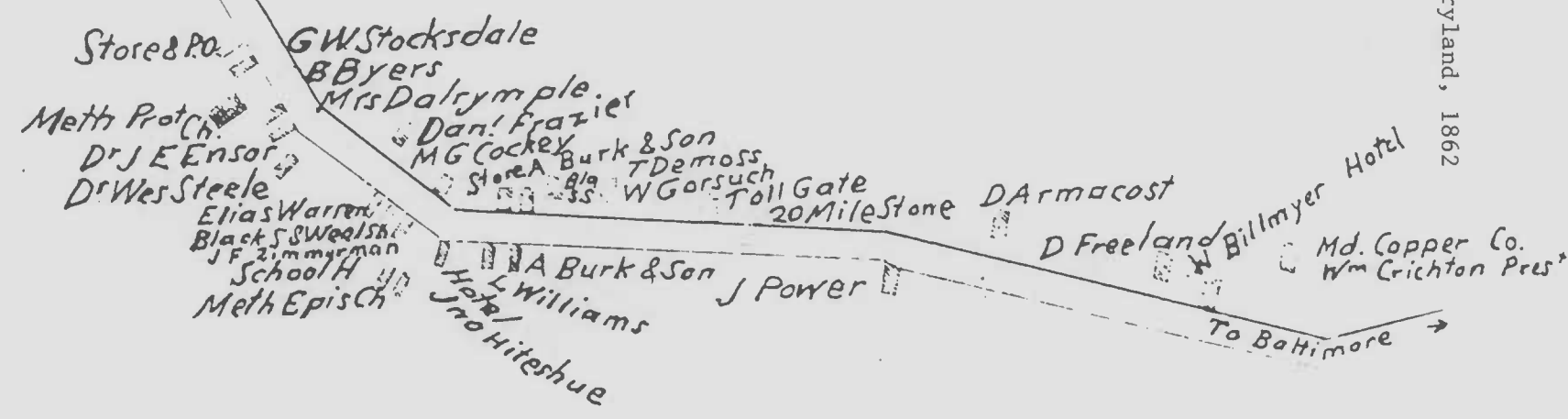
CARR-987



Lowe



WH Ward  
CO Dorsey



# FINKSBURG

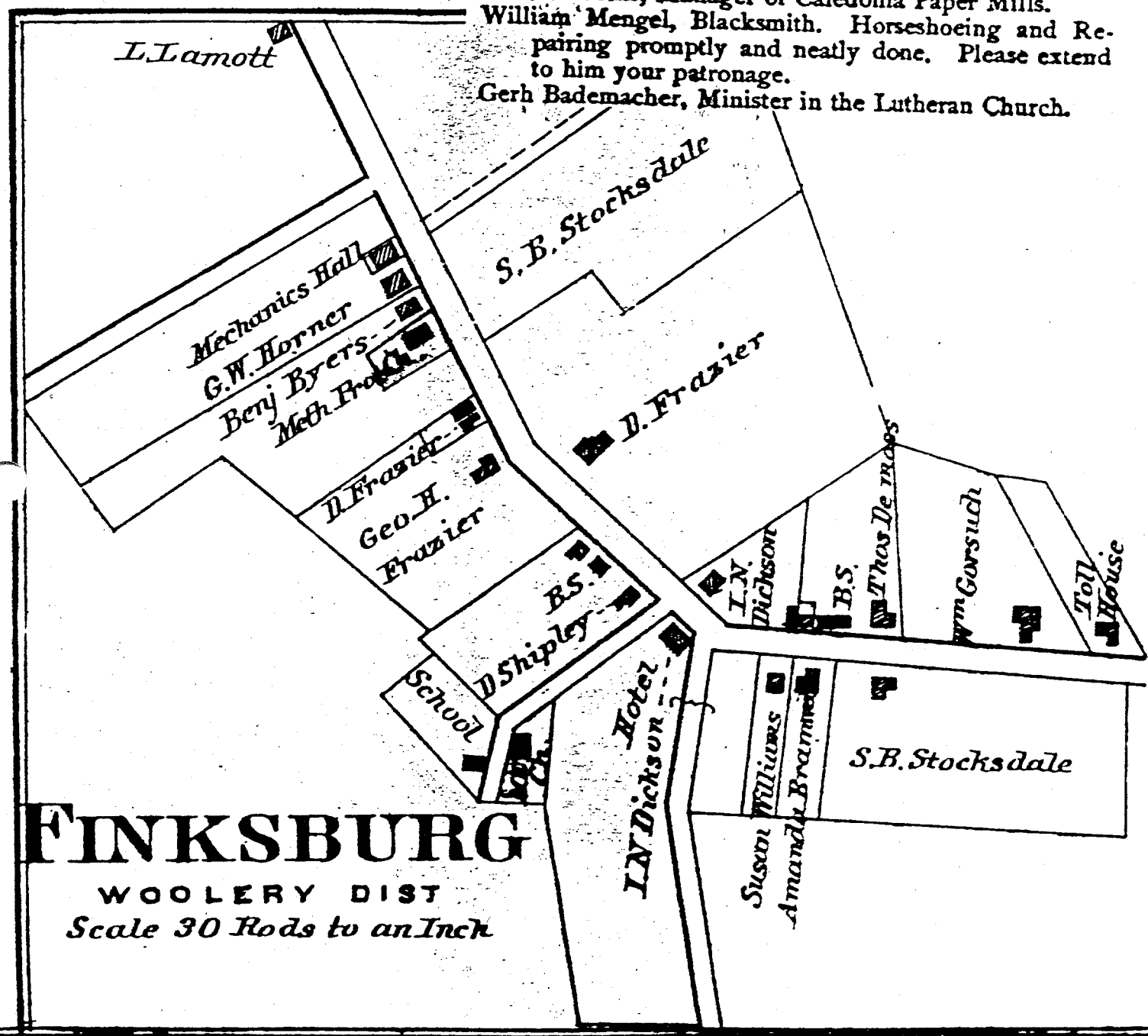
rrisonville P.O.  
HISTORICAL RECORD

Martenet's Map of Carroll County, Maryland, 1862

CARR-987

smith. Work of all kinds in his  
 or at short notice.  
 er and Dealer in Italian Bees.  
 d sells the "Langstrath Improved  
 Bee Hive." Residence and farm  
 iles north of Silver Run.  
 th. All work done promptly to

and Dealer in Flour, Grain, Feed, &c.  
 Nicholas Benson, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, No-  
 tions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Everything  
 usually kept in a first-class country store.  
 John A. Dushane & Co., Proprietors of Caledonia Paper  
 Mills, and Manufacturers of, and Dealers in, all  
 kinds of Paper. Book and Newspapers a specialty,  
 and made to order at short notice. Office, No. 40  
 South Charles Street, Baltimore.  
 Jarrett N. Shauck, Proprietor of first-class Flouring  
 Mills.  
 Wm. Stubbins, Manager of Caledonia Paper Mills.  
 William Mengel, Blacksmith. Horseshoeing and Re-  
 pairing promptly and neatly done. Please extend  
 to him your patronage.  
 Gerh Bademacher, Minister in the Lutheran Church.







1. CARR-987 Finksburg Survey District
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. December 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Old Westminster Pike, view north from  
center of town
7. 1/1